

1. Pharmacy Team Message

Welcome to the Primary Care Pharmacy Newsletter COVID19 - Corona Virus Edition March 2020

As the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP) Pharmacy team, we want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the vital work you are doing in these extremely challenging conditions.

To enable pharmacies to concentrate on the current urgent health priorities, we will be postponing all CPAF contractual monitoring visits and health campaigns until later in the year. The key priority at this time is to maintain essential service delivery, supporting patients to safely access medicines and health advice.

For latest NHS England guidance please see the link below.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/>

If you have any queries at all, please email england.gmtop@nhs.net

2. Unforeseen Closures

There have already been a number of reported closures due to COVID19 and the need to deep clean. To establish the impact, please inform NHS England England.gmtop@nhs.net as soon as possible. Please ensure you are completing the form on this link [template application form](#) and most importantly ensure you are clear with your signposting.

If are closing the pharmacy, please create a sign to say the following:

- Date and time of closure
- We have had to close the pharmacy for approximate number of hours/minutes.
- Your nearest pharmacies are (check www.nhs.uk)

3. GM Healthcare Academy Covid-19 recorded webinar

The GM Healthcare Academy held a webinar on 16th March 2020 at 7:30pm to provide practical advice to deal with the recent outbreak of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). This is a recorded resource so can still be accessed for your information.

There are plans to set up a feed in which the GMLPC will send out the most up to date news and advice pertaining to COVID-19 and a collaboration forum in which pharmacies across Greater Manchester can communicate and help others with issues that arise such as shortage of staff, for instance as a result of the outbreak. Further details about this can be found in the webinar. We are keen to ensure that the guidance offered effectively address the challenges faced by contractors.

[Click here to access the webinar.](#)

[Click here for the resources](#)

Key considerations

- Minimising risk to staff and patients
- Managing access to the pharmacy
- Managing deliveries
- Managing workload and staff absence
- Prioritising core activities if required

Important contacts

For any urgent enquiries please email england.gmtop@nhs.net

The team contact telephone numbers are as follows:

- Steve Riley 07738 689 814
- Lindsay Crabtree 07713 795 875
- Monica Roper 07730 379321
- Diane Murphy 07730 381991

- Sophia Lapsley 07713 795874
- Tracy Thewlis 07713 38322
- Michael Ziki 07769 960522
- Greater Manchester Local Pharmacy Committee (LPC): 0161 228 6163
Email: enquiries@gmlpc.org.uk
- Bolton LPC
louise@boltonlpc.org.uk

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
- your condition gets worse
- your symptoms do not get better after 7 days
- [Use the 111 coronavirus service](#)
- Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.

Advice and Guidance for patients -

Stay at home if you have coronavirus symptoms – patients should not enter the pharmacy

Stay at home for 7 days if you have either:

- a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly
- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.
- You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home.
- Testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home.
- Stay at home advice is available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>



Strand Pharmacy, Kirkholt –showing their very pertinent and informative health display.



Important Reminder

Please ensure you are checking your NHSmail shared inboxes on a daily basis, due to the high volume of updates and guidance we are sharing, it is imperative to get into the routine of checking your NHS mails each day and ideally keep the inbox open and check throughout each day.